

Series I  
Correspondence,  
1932-1973

Box 8, Folder 9

May 6, 1952 -  
December 3, 1952

0223

HARRY S. TRUMAN  
PRESIDENT, UNITED STATES  
HONORARY CHAIRMAN

— • —  
ROBERT A. LOVETT  
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
CHAIRMAN

1802 1952



WEST POINT  
SESQUICENTENNIAL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

— • —  
MATTHEW B. RIDGWAY  
GENERAL, U. S. A.  
ALFRED M. GRUENTHER  
GENERAL, U. S. A.  
LAURIS NORSTAD  
LIEUTENANT GENERAL, U. S. A. F.  
FREDERICK A. IRVING  
MAJOR GENERAL, U. S. A.  
SUPERINTENDENT, U.S.M.A.  
WILLIAM E. CRIST  
BRIGADIER GENERAL, U. S. A.

May 6, 1952

Commodore R.W. Bates  
Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the Superintendent, I should like to welcome you as the representative of the Naval War College at our Jubilee Convocation to be held on 20 May 1952.

I regret to inform you that garage facilities for delegates to the Jubilee are not available at West Point. However, for your use I am enclosing a delegate's card which will permit you to park your car in a reserved area on the post. Will you kindly place the card in the windshield of your car prior to your arrival at the West Point gate.

The summer semi-dress uniform will be worn at West Point on 20 May 1952.

We are looking forward to seeing you at our Jubilee Convocation and at the banquet for official guests on the evening of 20 May.

Sincerely yours,

*T.W. Hammond, Jr.*  
T.W. HAMMOND, JR.  
Colonel, AGC  
Sesquicentennial Director

Encl.

Address: Sesquicentennial Director, U. S. Military Academy, West Point, N. Y.

Telephone West Point 6-2711, Ext. 2-3100

Cable USMASESQUI

0224

HARRY S. TRUMAN  
PRESIDENT, UNITED STATES  
HONORARY CHAIRMAN

— • —  
ROBERT A. LOVETT  
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
CHAIRMAN



WEST POINT  
SESQUICENTENNIAL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

— • —  
MATTHEW B. RIDGWAY  
GENERAL, U. S. A.  
ALFRED M. GRUENTHER  
GENERAL, U. S. A.  
LAURIS NORSTAD  
LIEUTENANT GENERAL, U. S. A. F.  
FREDERICK A. IRVING  
MAJOR GENERAL, U. S. A.  
SUPERINTENDENT, U.S.M.A.  
WILLIAM E. CRIST  
BRIGADIER GENERAL, U. S. A.

10 May 1952

Commodore R. W. Bates  
Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Commodore Bates:

Thank you for your letter of 8 May 1952 concerning your attendance at the West Point Jubilee Convocation.

In reply to your question concerning the uniform for the day, the khaki tropical worsted with coat and trousers is appropriate "semi-dress uniform." Blues for the evening and your academic robes for the Procession will be proper.

We are looking forward to seeing you at our Jubilee Convocation.

Sincerely,

  
T. W. HAMMOND, JR.  
Colonel, AGC  
Sesquicentennial Director

Address: Sesquicentennial Director, U. S. Military Academy, West Point, N. Y.

Telephone West Point 6-2711, Ext. 2-3100

Cable USMASESQUI

0225

Refer to:

U. S. NAVAL PHOTOGRAPHIC CENTER  
NAVAL AIR STATION  
ANACOSTIA 20, D. C.

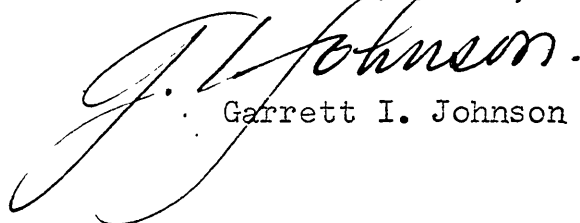
21 May 1952

Commodore R. W. Bates  
Naval War College  
Newport, R. I.

Dear Commodore Bates:

This verifies the dates of 28-29 May at Film Graphics, 245 West 55th Street. This will be an interesting and important meeting. At this time you can pass upon an actual example that demonstrates some of the points I have in mind. I expect that, through my misunderstanding, some parts may be technically unacceptable, but they can be corrected. What I really hope for is approval of the method of presentation. The method of presentation is merely the application of basic principles that lead to efficient use of both pictures and words to make a good teaching film.

Sincerely yours,

  
Garrett I. Johnson

GIJ/msm

0226

14 May, 1952

Dear Commodore Bates,

This is a general report on the recent meeting at Film Graphics. The story-board, as you saw it, has not been changed except for a few sketches in the "Japanese General Concept". These sketches were redrawn, not to change their content, but to improve the art.

The rest of our work was mostly revision of the first three topics: "Introduction", "The Tulagi-Guadalcanal Area", and "Weather". This revision is mounted as a separate unit so you can compare it with the original version and see exactly what Blair and I have in mind. If you approve the revision, or a sufficient part of it, then Blair and I will use the same sort of effort wherever it applies.

In the revision, the order of main topics was not changed; but the internal development within each main topic was changed to give a smoother pictorial presentation. This required some revision of text. We tried to do this carefully and used the book as well as the script as a guide; but we expect the revision itself will be revised. For example, when I left New York, I thought I knew the main geographical features of the Guadalcanal-Tulagi area. Now I'm not so sure about it.

The present revision reads, "On May 2, they took Florida Island with it's Tulagi Harbor, -- the most important in the Solomons." Now I suspect that the correct statement might be, "On May 2, they took Tulagi Island which commands the most important harbor in the Solomons." The misunderstanding probably started with the "Tulagi" label in Diagram #J". I interpreted it as Tulagi Harbor. There is no positive indication that there is a Tulagi Island. I raised this question here at NPC and, during the discussion we turned to the book. There, in Plate IV, is the answer. In the plate, the Tulagi labels permit no misunderstanding. But this is not a serious film problem. We can correct it in a few minutes at our next meeting. The important thing is this: that there was a misunderstanding shows that we did not handle this point in the best way. A reader can repeat an obscure passage in a book, but the average film audience gets only one crack at a film.

I would like to describe all the details of the last meeting, but it would require a very long letter, and it would accomplish much less than a meeting at Blair's. Then we can finish this task in much less time than it would take to write about it, ---and with less chance of misunderstanding.

When I left Film Graphics, the story-board had advanced about sixty drawings beyond the point where you saw it; and an artist was working to improve the visualization of Allied Command Relationship.

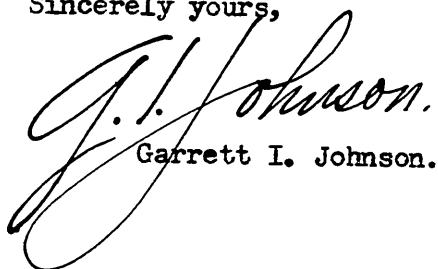
0227

Mr. Blair intends to finish the story-board up to page 54 so, on your next visit, you can review the work you have seen and also a sizeable section of new work. We are aiming for a meeting in New York on 28 and 29 May. We think two days will be needed. These dates will be verified on or about 21 May, either by letter from me, or by telephone from Mr. Blair.

This is my first assignment with Film Graphics and I am favorably impressed with the way they have started the project. Mr. Blair and his associates seem to be sincere and conscientious about their work, and that is reassuring. I believe that Savo Island will be a good film.

A copy of the script was mailed to you on 13 May. I had forgotten about it and I apologize.

Sincerely yours,

  
Garrett I. Johnson.

0228



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

Op-533/pww

23 May 1952

Commodore R. W. Bates  
Naval War College  
Newport, R. I.

Dear Commodore:

Enclosed please find the War College diagrams for the period 10 October through 17 October 1944. We have extended the analysis to include almost the entire chart. As before the weather is for the period 0600 - 0700Z of the indicated date.

The tropical disturbance in the Inter-tropical front approaching Leyte on the 15, 16 and 17th, although described by some ships' reports as a typhoon, on post analysis does not seem to warrant that description. The disturbance was short lived and although strong winds were encountered by some ships in the area, others experienced only typical Inter-tropical frontal type weather. The frontal zone pictured on the charts is the daily estimated location of the Inter-tropical front. It is not necessarily a solid belt of bad weather, but within it there are sharp thunder storms and violent squalls.

We were able to borrow the narrative from Admiral Yeomans, who has requested us to return it to him.

We are sending some material to Captain Dimitrijevic which will enable him to help you interpret the enclosed diagrams should that be necessary.

We have progressed as far as we can at this time and will await your forwarding of additional diagrams and narrative.

Sincerely yours,

*R. Minter*  
R. C. Minter  
Chief of Naval Operations

Enclosure

0229



U. S. NAVY HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
THE HYDROGRAPHER  
U. S. NAVY HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

REFER TO

Code 54-SML  
Serial 3934

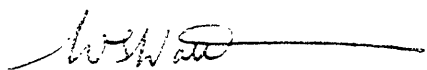
13 June 1952

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN (Ret.)  
Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Commodore Bates:

Replying to your letter of June 3, 1952, concerning Tulagi and Gavutu Islands, we would not consider them to be a part of Florida Island, but as islands of the Ngela Group, close to Florida Island.

Sincerely yours,

  
WILLIAM G. WATT, Director  
Division of Maritime Security  
By direction of the Hydrographer

0230





DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS (ADMINISTRATION)  
WASHINGTON

10 July 1952

Dear Rafe:

This letter concerns your letter of 3 July and our conversation of 8 July about your two Japanese translators.

Captain Stuart took up the matter of retention of Mr. Kawakami on ONI's pay roll with Rear Admiral Stout, and he reluctantly agreed to keep Mr. Kawakami on contract for another year. This contract, as I understand it, will be under the same considerations as that under which he is now working. The people in ONI, however, tell me that this year will positively be the last one that they will go along with this arrangement as they feel they should be out of this business. Since I understood from you that another year should complete the work which Mr. Kawakami is engaged in, I told them that this would be the last year that we would go to them for help. Mrs. Tanaka will remain on the Civil Service pay roll in Op-342 as at present so I think that your worries in connection with the two translators are over for fiscal year 1953. I hope so because I do feel that you are engaged in a very worth-while task, and I am sure that all of us will appreciate what you are doing in the years to come.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN  
U.S. Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

0231

NAVAL WAR COLLEGE  
NEWPORT, R. I.

July 18, 1952

Dear Commodore:

Your most welcome note of the 16th has just been delivered and I'll hasten to reply for I know you are interested in our activities as well as the Kawakami matter.

With reference to Kawakami, I received a note this past Monday in which he stated that he has not been contacted by anyone with relation to his new contract and that, he, Kawakami considered himself unemployed as of the 14th and "I'll be damned that I'll raise a finger to contact them (ONI)." I immediately got on the phone and talked to Stuart in ONI and he assured me that the matter was being taken care of and that in fact Kawakami was coming in the next day to sign the contract. I subsequently got a note from Kawakami in which he stated that he was going to sign the contract that afternoon but apparently still feels irritated because Chick Hartman's people used the expression "reluctant to employ Mr. Kawakami for a year." Our temperamental friend objects to the word reluctant. Kawakami also told me that he would let us know if we were going to lose the "services of our chief translator." As I have not heard from him or Stuart, I assume he did actually sign.

I have gone through the Japanese side and Hindman is now making another check. When Bowker returns I shall have him go through the same procedure after which I feel confident that the volumes will be ready for the offset typing after you have approved a few minor changes which I have made.

Eccles has not made an appearance as yet. When I saw him at Quindecim I urged him to come over as quickly as possible which he promised he would do. I shall refresh his mind in regard to the inclusion of "battle lessons" when he shows up.

The weather here has been particularly obnoxious for the past week and no signs of any let-up. Fortunately we in the basement are not effected by the heat.

We were all delighted to know of your safe arrival and hope that you will take this opportunity to get thoroughly rested

0232

and, of course, spend many happy days with your parents and friends. There is no necessity for you to come back any earlier than you have to, because we will do all we can to get the books in shape as you desire. I also hope to have some notes on Japanese tasks and concepts ready for your consideration by the time you return.

Kindest regards from all of us.

Respectfully,

  
J.J. ROCHEFORT.

P.S. - My son and his family arrived yesterday so we have the family together for the first time in several years.

Commodore R.W. Bates, USN,  
c/o H.L.A. Bates,  
727 Paru Street,  
Alameda, California.

0233

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : President

DATE: 16 Sept 1952

FROM : Head World War II Battle Evaluation Group

SUBJECT: Chief of Information Request for Strategic  
and Tactical Analyses World War II

1. Here is the correspondence referred to.

R.W. Bates -

7-10. Commander Bates. 2. Intelligence  
President says go ahead and send them.  
RWB

0234



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF INFORMATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

10 September 1952

Commodore R. W. BATES, USN(Ret.)  
Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Commodore Bates:

This is in answer to your letter of 3 September, and in explanation of the request for copies of the various Pacific Battle series.

The request originated with Captain Walter KARIG, USNR, Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy, Head of Current History Division and Special Deputy to the Chief of Information. His primary duty is a Historical one. As you know he is the guiding light for the BATTLE REPORT series. He recently obtained copies of two of the War College Battle series on a temporary loan basis from the Office of Naval History and found them most interesting and enlightening.

Certainly Captain Karig does not intend "using" the War College series in connection with his writing. However, as background material, the War College studies may be invaluable from the standpoint of assisting in correct interpretations of historical data available to his group. This might be of particular value to him at present inasmuch as he is engaged in the final phase of putting together a television history of the Navy in World War II and Korea. This show titled VICTORY AT SEA is scheduled for national network distribution by the National Broadcasting Company. It is a half-hour program running 26 weeks, and NBC is budgeting a half million dollars for the showing. Whereas no classified information will be shown, nor will any attempt be made to analyse the actions of Navy Commanders, your excellent analysis might very well assist him in placing proper emphasis on purely historical events.

Of course Captain Karig has access to practically all documents relating to the Pacific war as well as to the present conflict, and is most conversant with classified information. You can be assured your series would be used merely as additional knowledge, and not utilized for "publicity" or "plagiaristic" purposes.

I trust that this information fills the blanks in the official request for these publications.

Respectfully,

  
L. J. KIRN

0235



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO  
Pers-Clla-hl

29 September 1952

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN  
Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Commodore Bates:

Your letter of 23 September 1952 to Captain Stickney has been forwarded to the Training Division for appropriate action.

The Training Division is prepared to publish your study on the Battle of Leyte Gulf in the same manner as the Battle of Savo Island. It is expected that about 1500 copies will be desired with two separate volumes for the book and diagrams.

I am anxious to insure that the printing job will be satisfactory to you in all respects and will be pleased to see you regarding the format on your next trip to Washington. We are making plans to receive the manuscript in November.

Very respectfully,

G. W. PRESSEY  
Captain, USN  
Head, Standards & Curriculum Branch  
Training Division

0236



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

10 November 1952

Dear Rafe:

When Beak was in the Navy Department last week, I gave him two articles which have been submitted for publication in the United States Naval Institute Proceedings. One was written by Heffernan entitled "Yamamoto Could Have Won at Midway." I should appreciate your comments respecting its accuracy. The other article was written by Koyanagi entitled "Looking Back: The Battle of Leyte Gulf." Regarding the latter, I should appreciate your comments as to the propriety of publishing it in the Proceedings. I have no serious concern as to the right of Koyanagi to sell his article, but I should like your confirmation that it was not written for you in connection with your current analysis.

The next meeting of the Board is to be held soon, and I should appreciate your assistance as soon as possible.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN  
Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

0237

# Film Graphics, Inc.

245 WEST 55 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N.Y. • JUDSON 6-0083-4

December 3, 1952

Commodore R. W. Bates, U.S.N.  
U.S. Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Commodore Bates:

We are in receipt of your letter enclosing the Japanese message from Tulagi which will be worked into the film in its accurate form.

May we extend our sincere sympathy to you on your trip to the coast, as the same situation occurred in our family last August.

At present, as our brief note of yesterday indicated, we are working on the revisions and new sketches for Part V. We would prefer scheduling our next meeting after Christmas as events move quite rapidly from this time to the holidays.

In reference to your concern over the length of the film, may we say that our bid to the Navy was based on your script which, so far, has been used as the basic framework for our storyboard. Additions here and there to clarify meaning were expected and we still anticipate an overall production length of 16 reels with a running time of two hours and forty minutes. It is still our intention to adhere to this length and include in adequate form all the material necessary to get across the "command story" as related to the Savo engagement.

May we in turn express our sincere wishes for a very Merry Christmas and assure you of our interest in Commander Inness' reactions to the storyboard on Parts I and II.

Most sincerely,

FILM GRAPHICS, INC.

*Lee E. Blair*  
Lee E. Blair, President

BB/ms

0238